Bought Books by Direction of

Library Board and Saved

State Money

HISTORY MATTER ALL WRONG

l'utnam Never Made Such Offer, It Was Another Firm Altogether.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] HARRISONBURG, VA., January 9.—Mr. John Pendleton Kennedy, State Librarian,

vice for the present session, so, by the direction of the Library Board, he went to New York and gave the contract.

State Library.

Mr. Kennedy will reach Richmond via the Chesapeake and Ohlo at 3:46 to-norrow (Thursday) afternoon, and will be at the service of the committee from that time.

TO BE INVESTIGATED

The Texas Legislature to Look

Into Those Trust

AUSTIN, TEX., January 9 .- A resolu-

AUSTIN, TEX., January 8.—A resolu-tion providing for a sweeping investiga-tion of the conduct of United States Senator Joseph W. Balley was introduced in the House of Representatives of the State Legislature to-day. It is signed by twenty-eight members of the Legislature. Senator Balley's term expires on March 4th.

in the primary election of last July

ONE DEAD, OTHERS WILL DIE

Senator Bailey was indorsed for Senato

DYNAMITE EXPLODES:

Fees.

SENATOR BAILEY

BOOK INQUIRY SHARPLY TURNS ON J. P. KENNEDY

State Librarian Under Fire Before Joint Legislative Committee.

DEALERS SAY HE SHOWED FAVORITISM

President of Bell Company Opens Way, and Library Attaches Tell of Alleged Proposition to Librarian by Book Contractor to Write History.

Failing like repeated bomb shells in the of the representatives of two local book concerns and three attaches of the State Library before the schoolbook committee, in relation to the purchase of books for the traveling libraries by State Librarian J. P. Kennedy, was at times highly sen-

J. P. Kennedy, was at times highly sensetional.

Mr. R. O. Bell, president of the Bell Book and Stationery Company, was the star witness, and his testimony to the effect that the books were all bought in New York, and many of them at prices higher than they could be purchased at retail in Richmond, opened the way for two hours of fast and furious talk by Chairman Byrd and witnesses; but the climax came when Messrs. Berkeley, Evans and Eckenrode, of the library staff, related that it was well understood about the library that Putnam & Co., Mr. Kennedy's New York agents, had offered him \$2.59 to write a history of Virginia, and had sent him \$60 as a bonus.

They testified, however, that the check had been returned, and that Mr. Kennedy said he sent it back because he had not yet determined whether or not he could undertake the work.

The committee sent at once for Mr. Kennedy, with the view of getting his version of the matter, but he was not in the city. He is somewhere in the Valley on business, and telegraph messages weresent him at Harrisonburg and New Market by Chairman Byrd, summoning him here at once to testify.

Red Opens the Way.

Bell Opens the Way.

Mr. Bell had testified that he talked with Mr. S. S. P. Patteson, of this city, a member of the library board, and showed him a letter from his firm to the board, complaining that local dealers were being discriminated against in the purchase of books. He said, at Mr. Patteson's request, he withheld the letter, and that the later, he understood, got through a resolution at the next meeting providing that hereafter competitive bids would be called for, so that everybody might have a chance.

This letter was produced, and is printed elsewhere, as is also a copy of the resolution.

cisewhere, as is also a copy of the resolution.

Naturally, this led up to the introduction of Mr. Patteson as a witness, and he said Mr. Bell had shown him such a letter, and he had requested that it be withheld because he thought the matter could be reached in some other way. To this end he had offered and gotten through the competitive bid resolution, though he was not now certain that this was the best way to purchase the books. The board had instructed Mr. Kennedy to go to New York and buy the books, and had left the prices largely to him. This caused Chairman Byrd to remark with some spirit that this board, like many others, appeared to be a mere figurehead.

withheld because he thought the matter could be reached in some other way. To this end he had offered and gotten through the competitive bid resolution, though he was not now certain that this was the best way to purchase the books. The board had instructed Mr. Kennedy to go to New York and buy the books, and had left the prices largely to him. This caused Chalrman Byrd to remark with some spirit that this board, like many others, appeared to be a mere figurehead.

He Did Not Know.

Mr. Patteson knew nothing of the alleged request of Mr. Kennedy by Putnam to write a history.

Mr. C. V. Merodith, also a member of the board, testified along the same line, and expressed confidence in the ability and integrity of the librarian, which, he said, would not be shaken in the absence of stronger testimony against him. It was by far the stormlest session of the committee, which returned here yesterday to resume its work, after a long holiday recess, and the testimony relating to Librarian Kennedy completely overshadowed the single book quostion, which herotofore has furnished the main point in the inquiry. This matter was only reverted to vesterday in order to fill in, and when there was an occasional hill in the feature of the day.

Superintendent W. F. Fox, of this city, was the first witness, but he was quickly excused, having only been called to say what royalty he got on "Fox's Civil the first witness, but he was quickly excused, having only been called to say what royalty he got on "Fox's Civil the first witness, but he was quickly excused, having only been called to say what royalty he got on "Fox's Civil the first witness, but he was quickly excused, having only been called to say what royalty he got on "Fox's Civil the first witness in the contract, the bill amounting to \$1,60 and the contract with the contract with the contract with the books.

Saved Money for State.

Mr. Kennedy readily admitted that the books of fiction could have been gotten at at the department stores than the books of fiction could have bee

excused, having only been called to say what royalty he got on "Fox's Clvil

Profound Silence.

Mr. Bell came naxt, and every word of his testimony was heard by all present. He was sure the local dealers had never had a chance to come in on these books when they could furnish them and were anxious to do so, and his conclusion was that the State had lost much

money by the last purchase.

Mr. F. L. Schofield, manager of Hunter's book store, gave similar testimony, and both he and Mr. Bell asserted that the books could have been secured for 15 to 20 per cent. less than they were

gotten.

They both took the invoice of the last purchase, and declared that many specific books had been sold to Putnam to the library at prices ranging from \$1.20 to \$1.50 when they were being sold here by retail for as little as 50 cents each.

Was Freely Talked Of.

Was Freely Talked Of.

Assistant Librarian Evans and Mr. F.
B. Berkeley and Mr. H. J. Ethenrode, both connected in an official capacity with the library, were the chief witnesses as to the history-writing episode.

They testified that Mr. Kennedy had talked of the matter; had discussed the offer of \$2.500 and the \$500 bonus check which was sent, and had said why the check was returned.

Some of them, too, thought many of the books purchased had been too high. The other witnesses of the day were Mr. R. C. Stearnes, secretary to the State Board of Education, and Mr. F. T. Norvell, editor for the B. F. Johnson Publishing Company, The former testified in favor of the single book flat, and the latter gave some interesting data soncerning the cost and conduct of the fast book campaign in Virginia, He, ROANOKE, VA., January 2.—By an explosion of dynamite at a railroad campten miles east of Roanoke this evenius, one man was listantly killed and three others mortally wounded. The dead man, whose name has not been learned, was foreman of a gang.

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

STATE LIBRARIAN TWENTY-SEVEN AND THE LIBRARIES IRON WORKERS BURIED IN METAL

Furnace Caused Horrible Tragedy.

MEN DISAPPEARED IN LAKE OF IRON

Wives and Children Fight Officers in Endeavor to Reach the Place of Their Dead. Other Serious Accidents at Fire That Followed.

PITTSBURG, PA., January 9 .-- As a esult of an explosion of a furnace at the Eliza furnaces of the Jones & Laughlin Steel Works to-night, three persons are chown to be dead, seven are in a hospital with serious burns and injuries, and twenty-four are missing.

The explosion was caused by an accumulation of gas at the base of the furnace, around which were working thirty-five men. Of all these but one man escaped injury. Without warning and with a roar of artillery tons of molten metal were poured over the work-men, and for a space of thirty feet about the furnace the metal ran to a depth of

the furnace the metal ran to a depth of four and five; feet.

Two alarms of fire were sent in and all the ambulances in the city were called. The seven who were able to escape from the hot metal with first lives were taken to a hospital, but it is thought the twenty-four missing men have been buried in the mass of steel and their bodies consumed. and their bodies consumed,

while attempting to rescue some of the men. Chief Peter Snyder, of the fourth fire district, was thrown from a treatle thirty feet high and seriously injured.

The three men whose bodies have been recovered west John Cramer. Andrew W.

recovered west John Cramer, Andrew W. Featherka and Gustave Kessler. None of the seven injured men is expected to

Pathetic Scene.

HARRISONBURG, VA. January 9.—Mr. John Pendleton Kennedy, State Librarian, who figured most conspicuously in the festimony before the Book Investigation Committee yestgriday, reached this city to-night about 11 o'clock, and was met at the train by The Times-Dispatch correspondent. Mr. Kennedy was fully informed by the newspaper man of all the testimony before the committee in Hichmond to-day, and was asked for a statement in reply to Messrs. R. C. Bell, Schofield, book-sellers, and others, who testified. The librarian seemed not the least worried about the turn things apparently had taken, putting him in the centre of the stage. He said that it was necessary to buy the books for the State circulating libraries a month or more after the schools had begun their session. In order to get the libraries quickly, it was impossible to go into the open market and get the books in time to be of much serevice for the present session, so, by the direction of the Union.

Pathetic Scene.

The scenes about the entrance to the mill were pathetic when the families of the victims learned of the disaster. Women, men and children gathered before the gate and made frantic efforts to gain admittance. Several of the frenzied women rushed upon the officers and fought them, crying to be allowed to enter the mill and see their loved ones.

It became necessary to call additional police to forcibly escort the women and children to their homes.

While the mill officials are inclined to believe that all of the missing men were not cremated in the moiten metal, nothing definite is known as to their fate. Only one man, George Knox, has turned up since the explosion, and Knox says everything happened so quick that he doubts whether the men escaped. Chief Poter Snyder, of the Fourth Fire District, fell from a trestle thirty feet high, injuring himself internally.

While responding to the alarm a hose carriage was struck by a street car, seriously injuring two of the fremen and killing a horse. The windows of the street car were shattered and a panic followed among the passengers. Two women were injured by being trampled.

NEGRO GAVE LIFE TO SAVE HIS DOG

Pamunkey and Dog Was Getting Worst of It.

Getting Worst of It.

ETNA MILLS, VA., January 3.—Davie Temple (colored), aged twenty-five years, was secidentally drowned yesterday morning while coon hunting. Davie jumped in the Pamunkey River to save his dog that was righting a coon. The coon was getting the best of the dog. The water was about eight feet deep. Davie had a lot of shells, ax, pan and lamp tied to him. The weight was too much to swim, consequently he went down, but as he came up he pulled off his jacket, about forty pounds but did not come up any more. His brother William, who was with him, jumped in to help, but was too late. The coon came out and went up another tree, where he was left. The dog was saved.

Jeff Truehart (colored) was brought home dead night before last, shot through his head by George Peterson at a girl's house in Dorson City. George warranted that he believed he would shoot the cap off Jeff's head. The ball was a 33-callbre that missed its mark and went right through Jeff's brains and dropped him dead.

JURY NOW HAS GOOD'S FATE IN ITS HANDS

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LURAY, VA., January 9.—The final
scenes in the celebrated Good trial,
which has been in progress in Luray for which has been in progress in Luray for several days, are being enacted to-night. Court convened at an early hour this morning, when Captain R. S. Parks began the argument for the State. Howas followed by Messrs. Hammer and Biackburn, counsel for the defense, Commonwealth's Attorney Kayser will close the argument for the State to-night, though all hope of reaching a verdict by the jury has been abandoned. Good has maintained an indifference all through the trial, even at times assuming a defiant air. Senator Balley was indorsed for Senator by almost unanimous vote of the people. Since that time it is charged that evidence has been obtained which, it is said, shows that he has received large sums of money in loans and fees from the Waters-Pierce Oil Company, the Kirty Lumber Company, the Security Oil Company and personally from H. C. Pierce, of the Waters-Pierce Company.

SOUTH CAROLINA STANDS BY THE PRESIDENT

COLUMBIA, S. C., January 9, By a vote of twenty-one to sixteen the South Carolina Senate to-day adopted a resolution endorsing the action of President Roosevelt in the Brownsylle matter, and requesting the South Carolina delegation in Congress to support this sourse,

TRIED TO MURDER HEIR TO FORTUNE WITH POISON

Explosion in a Pittsburg Prescott Abbe Receives a Package of Dates Stuffed with Arsenic.

CRIME RECALLS MOLINEUX CASE

Boy's Grandmother Examined the Package and Sent It to Doctor-Mystery Surrounds Affair - Detectives Think They Have Clue to Poisoner.

box of dates, stuffed with bits of English walnuts and argonic, was the gift of young Prescott Abbe, the handsome sixteen-year-old son of Mrs. Lillian P Abbe, of Rockville, Md., received a few days since. Despite the efforts of the family to keep the details of the diabolical plot against the boy's life from the public, the particulars have gradually become known.

Mrs. Abbe and her aged mother, Mrs. Prescott, make their home at the Cochran Hotel, in Rockville, Young Piescott Abbe, an only son, and incidentally heir to many thousands of dollars from his Grandfather Abbe's estate when h becomes twenty-one, resides with his mother. Two weeks ago an express package came for the boy, without marks to indicate the sender.

Poison Is Found.

marks to indicate the sender.

Poison Is Found.

Why the grandmother should have been suspicious of the package and opened it before the young man arrived home is a family secret, and would not be divulged. This she did, however, and noticing the rather ragsed condition of one of the stuffed dates which she found on top in the package, examined it closely. She found the top of the date filled with walnuts. Beneath was a fine white powder.

Every date in the top layer was similarly doctored. Beneath this layer the dates appeared to be of the ordinary kind—the powder being effect.

She called the young man and directed him to take the box to Dr. Claiborne Mannar. He examined the powder, pronounced it potson, and the State's attorney was immediately notified and began work on the case. There was enough arsenic in each date to kill six persons.

Believe They Have Clue.

Seen last evening the boy's mother and grandmother refused to talk concerning the affair, except to admit the truth of the foregoing facts. "Yes, it is true, too horribly true," said Mrs. Abbe. "We don't just know what to do or say. It is awful to contemplate what might have happened had the mother here not been at home and had her suspicions aroused. Of course, we believe we have some clue, but we are not discussing this, the matter is in the hands of the State's attorney, and you had best see him."

Young Abbe was also very reticent, and beyond the statement that he "was glad he didn't get it," would not discuss the case. The family is possessed of considerable means, Mrs. Prescot, his grandmother, being quite wealthy.

His father, Dr. Edward H. Abbe, of Washington, was formerly a resident of Rockville. Some years ago he obtained a divorce and has since remarried. It is generally understood that the boy and his father are on good terms, and frequently see one another. An effort was made by a Times reporter this morning to see Dr. Abbe at his apartments at the Dupont, but he declined to be Interviewed.

Coon and Dog Were Fighting in Abbe at his apartments at the D

State's Attorney Talks.

but he declined to be interviewed.

State's Attorney Talks,

State's Attorney Robert Peter was seen at his home in Rockville last night. He stated that heretofore he had refused to express himself to any one in regard to the matter, in deferenc to the family's wishes, and had for this reason laughingty pronounced the story a "hoax" when questioned. "However," said Mr. Peter, "the facts have become known here. "Just in what manner they became public I don't know, but the story is true. It is one of the most nefarious crimes which I have ever tried to fathom. We hope to find the perpetrator, but I am not at liberty to say in what manner we are working toward this end, or the information we have to work upon."

Mr. Peter admitted that he had private detectives at work on the case. Those in charge of the investigation would not admit that any particular person or persons were suspected.

It is understood that the boy has a namber of relatives in New York or in sections adjacent thereto.

The contents of the will of the older Dr. Abbe are not generally known, nor is it known outside of the family the exact sum bequeathed to young Prescott, or what the disposition of this legacy would be in case of the death of the heir. These questions are problematical, and many different rumors are affoat.

No Personal Enemies.

No Personal Enemies.

No Personal Enemies.

The boy has no personal enemies, however, and it is the consensus of opinion that the legacy is the real root of the artair.

It is freely admitted that an analysis of the suspicious powder made in Washington, developed the fact that it was pure arsenic, and had it not been for the imperfect closing of one of the dates its recessors might not have been discovered. presence might not have been discovered. The story first prevalent that the box contained candy was incorrect.

JURY ACQUITS LAING OF CRIMINAL ASSAULT

FRONT ROYAL, VA., January 0.—
Wilbur H. Laing, who was yesterday acquitted of the charge of criminally assaulting Gueste E. Merchant, aged fourteen, orested quite a sensation immediately after his trial, when he instructed Captain H. H. Downing, of the firm of Downing & Weaver, his attorney, to state to the court that he was and slways had been willing to marry the young lady if the parents of the girl would consent,

SENDS POISONED DATES TO HEIR TO FORTUNE



Bill to Give Army Men

\$3,000,000.

Denounces the Bill and Ex-

plains Its Evils.

service. The bill was introduced by

peared to members of the committee, and

Old Law a Graft.

Old Law a Graft.

Under the law as it formerly existed, officers and enlisted men mustered out of the service, were allowed, en route to their homes a day's pay and commutation of a day's subsistence for every twenty miles traveled. A soldier mustered out in San Francisco, especially if an officer, would thus receive quite a snug sum if his home was in Georgia. The War Department called the attention of Congress to the fact that several officers and men who were mustered out in the Philippines received a day's pay and commutation of subsistence for every twenty miles traveled to their

for every twenty miles traveled to their homes in this country, and it was re-commended that the law be changed.

the bill was killed."

Mohammed Ali Mirza Is Now in Michigan Representative Offers the Palace of His

ENTHRONEMENT ON FEB. 2ND

No Disturbances Have Occurred and Funeral Ceremonies Are Proceeding.

TEHERAN, January 9.-Almost immediately after the official announcement of the death of the Shah at 9 o'clock this morning Mohammed Ali Mirza proceeded to the Palace, where he was formally acknowledged as Shah by the Grand Vizier and other princes of the royal family, and by a large number of high

The enthronement of the new Shah. Mohammed Ali Mirza, has been fixed for the Chadir festival, the festival of for the Chadir Testival, the Testival of mustered into the service of the United the lake, which will be celebrated on States under the act of Murch 2, 1899." February 2d. The selection of this date is regarded as very auspicious, it being the anniversary of the day upon which the prophet, standing at the side of the lake, proclaimed that Mohammed All Mirza was his own flesh and blood. Up to this evening no disturbance of any kind has been reached, and the cremonies in concetton with the funeral and interment of the late Shah were proceeding in the customary manner.

NO NEWS RECEIVED FROM THE S. S. PONCE

Steamship Officials Say She Is Not Equipped With Wireless.

KEY WEST, FLA., January 9 .- The perator at the government wireless station here reported to-day that the steamer Ponce called both the Hatterns and Savannah wireless stations on January 1st, but the operator at this point did not know the Ponce's distance at sea. The Key West station did not answer the call. The wireless station at San Juan last night sent a message to the station here asking for information concerning the asking for infor missing steamer.

NEW YORK, January 9 .- The York and Porto Rico Steamship Company officials said to-night that the wireless message received at Hatteras and Savannah January 1st, supposedly from the steamer Ponce, had evidently been con-fused, as the Ponce was not equipped with a wireless outfit.

CAMPAIGN FOR \$200,000 FUND IS WELL BEGUN

Influential Citizens Committee Named to Make Vigorous Canvass.

MOVEMENT WELL BEGUN ALREADY

Of Sum Desired, \$40,000 Has. Been Subscribed by Three Gentlemen-Mr. Bryan, the Mayor and Others Make Ringing Addresses.

 Joseph Bryan
 \$20,000

 John P. Branch
 15,000

 T. Archibald Cary
 5,000
 Subscriptions to-day..... \$40,000

Above is the statement of the Young Men's Christian Association new buildng headquarters at the close of busi-

ness on the third day of the campaign.
One-fifth of the amount needed—\$200,000 in all—has been raised before the campaign was fairly laurched.

Mr. N. D. Sills, chairman of the young business men's committee, announced yesterday that he expected to have his ten sub-chairman selected to-day. As soon as his list has been completed these chairmen, who will be captains of the teams of ten men each, will choosenine men from about 150 picked men to be their co-workers in the active work of soliciting. The rivalry of the teams of the young business men's committee promises to be one of the most interesting aspects of the campaign, as each team will either strive for first place or for keeping out of the last position, Mr. W. Y. Reithard is secretary of this committee.

Strong Citizens' Committee. Mr. Joseph Bryan, chairman, gave out esterday the following list of his ap-ointments on the citizens' committee,

HAVE ALREADY BEEN PAID Chairman Mahon, of War Claims, WASHINGTON, D. C., January 9 .- The this morning a bill which, had it passed, dollars out of the treasury and placed the sum in the pockets of officers and

L. T. Myers, Fred E. Nolting, William Northrop, H. C. Osterbind, Colonel William H. Palmer, A. J. Parrish, J. Scott Parrish, M. C. Patterson, T. W. Pemberton, Edmund Pendleton, General A. L. Phillips, Thomas Poindexter, Henry R. Pollard, John B. Purcell, R. G. Rennolds, C. E. Richards, John W. Rothert H. W. Rountree, Thomas M. Rutherfoord, O. J. Sands, T. K. Sands, E. A. Saunders, Jr. W. C. Schmidt, Fred W. Scott, Dr. William H. Scott, J. W. Sharp, James R. Sheppard, Samuel Sinton, H. M. Smith, Jr., Robert M. Smith, Colonel Jo Lans Stern, George W. Stevens T. D. Stokes, Edmund Strudwick, F. H. Sutton, Hon, Claude A. Swanson, T. G. Sydnor, Williamson Talley, Edgar D. Taylor, H. Selgen Taylor, Henry Taylor, Jr. W. B. Tennant, James G. Tinsley, Dr. Christopher Tompkins, S. W. Travers, Dr. John N. Upshur, Fred S. Valentine, Everett Waddev Judge Edmund Waddill, Jr., John G. Walker, B. Rand Wellford, Thomas Wheelwright, William H. white, W. J. Whifehurst, Henry T. Wickham, Joseph E. Williams, John Skelton Williams T. C. Williams, Jr., John T. Wilson, Charles E. Wingo, H. w. Wood, S. B. Woodfin, Coleman Wortham. It was entitled, "A bill regulating the travel, pay for officers and enlisted men States under the act of March 2, 1893."

Briefly stated, the bill provided that certain men who have left the army under certain circumstances, and have been sent to their homes at the expense of the government, shall be allowed one day's pay and twenty cents a mile for every mile traveled from the place of muster-out to their homes. Chairman Mahon spoke in most emphatic terms in denouncing the bill to-day in conversation with The Times-Dispatch correspondent.

"We have to allow many things in the way of claims against the government which do not stand the closest scrutiny." he said. "That is natural, owing to the vast amount of business done, and the vast amount of business done, and the combinations resulting from circumstances. But this was outrageous, it ap-

First Meeting Enthusiastic. The first meeting of the citizens' com-mittee was held at the new building head-

The first meeting of the citizens' committee was held at the new building head-quarters, corner Tenth and Main Streets, and the plans outlined for this campaign were heartily seconded. Mr. O. A. Hawline, president of the Richmond Y. M. C. A., said last night that this was the most enthusiastic and spirited meeting in connection with the work of the association in many years. The citizens' committee will meet again on Friday afternoon at 4:30, when a full attendance is expected. Active work will by that time be fully under way.

The meeting yesterday was more successful than could have been anticipated, called as it was upon short notice, and evolding strong sentiments from representative business men in favor of more liberal and urgent support of such a streat character-building institution as the Y. M. C. A. The hearts of all present were gladdened by the announcement that 440,000 of the amount required had been already subscribed, the donations being conditional upon the balance of the 320,000 being raised. These amounts are as follows:

as follows: \$90,000-Mr. Joseph Bryan, who purchased the site at the northwest corner of Seventh and Grace Streets, for \$15,56 and presented it to the association, and will make up the balance of \$20,000.

115,000 from Mr. John P. Branch, who was too ill to attend the meeting.

Mr. Joseph Bryan, chairman of the citizens' committee, was in the chair. The meeting was opened promptly at 4:25, o'clock, and nearly every chair provided.

homes in this country, and it was recommended that the law be changed.

In 1800 Congress enacted a law providing
that men discharged from the service
should receive four cents a mile as traveling expenses to their homes.

But men enlisted prior to the date of
the new law, who have since been mustered out of the service, instituted a
movement this winter to secure pay under the old law at the rate of a day's
pay and commutation of rations for every
twenty miles covered in reaching their
homes from the place of muster-out.

Mr. Hamilton's bill was the result of the
offorts of the discharged men, who wished
to get several million dollars, \$3,000,000
according to the estimate of Chairman
Mahon, from the national treasury. A
bureau here in Washington assumed
charge of the matter, and hus been pressing it before the committee. But the bill (Continued on Third Page)